

REMARKS

Originally filed claims 1-12 as amended by this paper are the only active claims pending in this application. The foregoing separate sheets marked as "Listing of Claims" shows all the claims in the application, each with an indication at its first line showing the claim's current status.

I. Amendments to the Specification

The Office Action does not state any objections to the specification. Applicant has identified minor typographical matters and submit amendments above correcting each. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments do not add new matter.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The Office Action rejects the examined claims 5, 6 and 7, stating that the phrase "information about" renders the claims "indefinite" under Section 112, second paragraph. Office Action at p. 2. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Applicant respectfully submits that "information about" would be understood by a person of ordinary skill to mean: "information representing" or "information indicating" and, therefore, is sufficiently definite. To expedite the examination, however, Applicant has amended claims 5-7 to more positively recite the subject limitations. See claims 5-7, each at lines 4-5 and at lines 7-8.

III. Rejections Based on Prior Art

The Office Action rejects the examined claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0131386 ("Gwon") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,796,727 ("Harrison"). Office Action at pages 2-6.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection, and submits that the combined disclosures of Gwon and Harrison lack elements of, and the combinations and arrangements defined Applicant's claims.

Applicant's claims 1 and 12 recite systems having a plurality of parent stations, each having its own MAC address a wireless communication section for

communicating with a mobile child station and for detecting a handover of the child station to another parent station. Claim 1, currently amended, at lines 4-6; Claim 12, currently amended, at lines 4-5. Each of the parent stations also includes a "table control section" for acquiring, in response to detecting a handover, a table with the registered MAC addresses of the parent stations that "relative to said parent station, can be a movement destination" of the mobile child station. Claim 1, currently amended, at lines 7-9; claim 12, currently amended, at lines 7-9. The claims recite the parent stations as further including a "band reserving request signal transmitting section" and a "LAN communication section," which transmit in response to detecting a hand-off "a band reserving request frame ... to the parent stations having their MAC addresses in the table. Claim 1, currently amended, at lines 12-18; claim 12, currently amended, at lines 11-17.

As claimed, each parent station maintains a table of all parent stations that can be a movement destination for a mobile child station, detects that a mobile child station is being handed over and, in response, the parent transmits via LAN a "band reserving request frame" to all parent stations registered in the table. As described in Applicant's specification, parent stations receiving the "band reserving request frame" start their internal process for reserving a wireless band upon receiving the frame. See Specification, at page 4, lines 2-23. As described by Applicant's specification, this improves the transmission quality between the mobile child station and the parent stations, because at each hand-off the destination parent station has already set up its mobile communication section to communicate with the child station, before the hand off actually takes place. *Id.*

Turning to Gwon, the closest structure it has in comparison to the claimed "parent stations" is its "wireless access points" 150,155, and the closest it shows in comparison to the claimed "child station" are its "mobile nodes" 135.

The Office Action concludes that Gwon, at [0056-0058] discloses the claim 1 and 12 "table control section for acquiring a table of" MAC addresses of parent stations that can be a destination for the child station being handed off. Office Action at p. 3.

Applicant respectfully responds that the Gwon reference does not show the subject matter identified by the Office Action.

Gwon discloses nothing of the "wireless access points" 155 detecting a hand-off of a "mobile node" 135. Gwon instead discloses the "mobile node 135" as "constantly monitor[ing]" beacon signals and as carrying out a hand off to "the new BTS 150 that is transmitting the strongest beacon signal." Gwon, at [0058], lines 8-11. There is nothing found anywhere in Gwon suggesting that the BTS 150 carries out the handoff. Gwon therefore lacks the "wireless communication section" of claims 1 and 12.

Gwon discloses nothing of the "wireless access points" 155,150 acquiring a table of the MAC addresses of the "wireless access points" 155 than can be a destination of a "mobile node" 135 being handed off. First, Gwon does not teach the wireless access points 155,150 having MAC addresses. Second, Gwon discloses nothing as to the internal make-up, construction or features of the wireless access points 155,150. Third, reading Gwon in its entirety, all of the hand-off operations are performed by its "mobile node" 135 and by its "BTS servers" 145. Gwon therefore lacks the "table control section" of claims 1 and 12.

Gwon discloses nothing, whatsoever, of any of the "wireless access points" 150,155 transmitting, or being capable of transmitting, a "band reserving request frame" to other of the "wireless access points" 150,155. Gwon in fact discloses nothing as to the internal make-up, construction or features of the wireless access points 155,150. Further, Gwon does not teach the wireless access points 155,150 having MAC addresses. Further, reading Gwon in its entirety, all of the hand-off operations are performed by its "mobile node" 135 and by its "BTS servers" 145. Gwon therefore lacks the "band reserving request signal transmitting section," and the LAN communication section of claims 1 and 12.

The Office Action cites Harrison as disclosing a LAN access system. Office Action at p. 3. Applicants respectfully submit that Harrison does not teach the above-identified claim features and elements, or their arrangement, which Gwon lacks. Harrison does not teach any structural equivalent to the claimed "parent stations," i.e., stations having a wireless communication section for communicating

with mobile child nodes, that detects a hand-off, or that acquires a table of MAC addresses of other parent stations that can be destinations of a mobile "child" stations, or that generates a "band request reserving frame," or that transmits the "band request frame" to parent stations based on the MAC addresses in the table.

Claims 2-11 depend from claim 1 and, therefore, are patentable over the combination of Gwon and Harrison for at least the reasons Applicant identifies above.

Further regarding claim 2, the Office Action cites Gwon as disclosing the claimed parent stations having a signal strength measuring section. Office Action at p. 4. Applicant responds that the Office Action misinterprets Gwon. Gwon teaches that the mobile nodes 135 measure the strength of beacon signals received from the wireless access nodes 150, 155, and that the mobile nodes 135 carry out a hand off to "the new BTS 150 that is transmitting the strongest beacon signal." Gwon, at [0058], lines 8-11. This is not within the broadest reasonable meaning of Applicant's claim 2 "signal strength measuring section" in the parent stations.

Further regarding claims 3 and 4, the Office Action cites Gwon as teaching a "movement direction determining section." Office Action at pp. 4-5. Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action misinterprets Gwon or does not consider the language of Applicant's claims. Applicant's claims recite the "movement direction determining section" as an element of the "parent stations." Gwon's structure closest to the claimed "parent stations" is its "wireless access nodes" 150, 155. Gwon teaches nothing of these "wireless access nodes" 150, 155 having anything comparable to the claimed "movement direction determining section."

Further regarding claims 5-7, the Office Action cites Gwon as teaching a "local route information server" and a "parent station" for storing the route information from the server, and for "nullifying a transmission instruction... on the basis of the [stored] route information." Office Action at p. 5.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action misinterprets Gwon or does not consider the language of Applicant's claims. Applicant's claims recite the "parent station" as storing the "route information," and the "parent station" as nullifying the transmission instruction on the basis of the route information stored in

the "parent stations. Gwon's structure closest to the claimed "parent stations" is its "wireless access nodes" 150,155. Gwon teaches *nothing* of the "wireless access nodes" 150,155 storing a "route information" and *nothing* of the "wireless access nodes" 150,155 nullifying anything, on any basis, much less nullifying a transmission instruction to other "wireless access nodes," based on a route information stored in that node 150, 155.

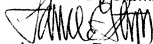
Further regarding claims 8-12, Applicant respectfully submits that Gwon's structure closest to the claimed "parent stations" is its "wireless access nodes" 150,155. Gwon does not disclose, teach or suggest the wireless access nodes 150,155 having, or being modified to have, or to be capable of the subject matter identified by the Office Action.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the application be reconsidered, that claims 1-12 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,



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